
61st U.N. General Assembly



**Information compiled by
The Information Resource Center
Embassy of the United States of America**

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Introduction

The Information Resource Center (IRC) of the Embassy of the United States in Madrid has prepared this information packet on the DVC on the 61st United Nations General Assembly.

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1. State's Silverberg Discusses 61st U.N. General Assembly, U. S. State Department Webchat transcript, September 13, 2006.

Kristen Silverberg, assistant secretary of state for International Organization Affairs, discusses U.S. plans for the 61st U.N. General Assembly and a range of issues including Lebanon, Darfur, Iran and Iraq.

Following is the transcript:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Bureau of International Information Programs
USINFO Webchat Transcript

Preview of the Upcoming 61st U.N. General Assembly
Assistant Secretary of State for International Organizations Kristen Silverberg

Guest: Kristen Silverberg
Date: September 13, 2006
Time: 1:30 p.m. EDT (1730 GMT)

WEBCHAT MODERATOR: Welcome. Our webchat with Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs Kristen Silverberg will begin in a few minutes.

We welcome your participation.

WEBCHAT MODERATOR: In an September 12 interview with the Washington File, Assistant Secretary Silverberg said the Bush administration is placing management reform and human rights at the top of its agenda for the upcoming session of the U.N. General Assembly.

KRISTEN SILVERBERG: Good afternoon. My name is Kristen Silverberg, and I am the Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs. I am happy to be with you today to discuss U.S. involvement in the United Nations and the beginning of the 61st General Debate of the UN's General Assembly, which will occur next week in New York. I look forward to your questions!

QUESTION [Tim]: Is President Bush going to address UNGA? What are his top priorities for the UN this year?

ANSWER [Kristen Silverberg] Thanks Tim. The annual opening of the General Assembly is an exciting time for the State Department. President Bush and Secretary Rice and many other officials in the Administration are able to meet with our counterparts from around the world. We will discuss the full range of foreign policy challenges, ranging from the Burmese government's continuing serious abuses of human rights to our efforts to reform the United Nations to make it more effective.

One important focus of our discussions will be challenges in the Middle East, and especially how the international community can work together to ensure that Iran does not acquire a nuclear weapon.

Q [Regina]: What is your view on the structure of the Security Council? There is increasing views that the current structure does not reflect the power centers throughout the world.

A: Regina, good question. The United States supports expansion of the UN Security Council to include a permanent seat for Japan. Japan is the second largest donor to the UN and has been an important and active supporter of UN activities. We think adding Japan to the Council would strengthen the Council and make it more effective in addressing today's threats to peace and security.

Q [Tim]: Do you think the reaction by the United Nations to Iran's uranium enrichment is adequate?

A: Tim and Andrew, thanks for the Iran-related questions. I do think the UN Security Council has shown that it is able to address important international security challenges, including Iran's nuclear program, but there is still more work to do. As you recall, the international community's serious concerns about Iran's nuclear program led the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to adopt a resolution reporting Iran to the UN Security Council in February 2006. The UN Security Council responded by unanimously adopting on March 29 a Presidential Statement, which called on Iran to fully suspend all enrichment-related and reprocessing activities and to cooperate fully with the IAEA's ongoing investigation. In light of Iran's continuing activities, on July 31, the UN Security Council moved to the next step by adopting resolution 1696, which explicitly demanded that Iran suspend all enrichment-related and reprocessing activities, including research and development. UN Security Council resolution 1696 made clear that if Iran did not comply with the resolution by August 31, the UN Security Council would take yet another step and adopt a resolution with sanctions. The IAEA Director General reported on August 31 that Iran had not yet suspended these activities, as demanded by the Council. As a result, the Security Council should now proceed to adopt a sanctions resolution. Formal discussions on a UN Security Council resolution began last week in Berlin among the governments of China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. We hope the UN Security Council will act as soon as possible.

WEBCHAT MODERATOR: For the latest information on the complex relationship between the United States and United Nations.

Q: [Sandy]: Secretary Silverberg, Should the NATO get involved in Darfur? What is the latest on a UN peacekeeping mission in Darfur?

Thank you

A: Sandy, thanks for a very relevant question. NATO has already provided assistance to the African Union mission (AMIS), by helping that organization fortify its existing peacekeeping capacities. NATO has provided technical advice to the AU to help it improve its capabilities in command and control, logistics, and communication. NATO assets have also been used to airlift AU troops and equipment from other African countries to Darfur to reinforce the AMIS mission. The U.S. supports the idea that regional organizations like the AU should be the first responders to crises in their region. The AU did a tremendous job in quickly fielding the necessary troops for the AMIS mission, but the international community now needs to step in. UN Security Council Resolution 1706 of August 31 authorizes the UN to deploy a peacekeeping force to Darfur, as the AU's Peace and Security Committee requested this spring, with AU units already in the field becoming a core element of that new operation.

Q [Andrew]: Ms. Silverberg, Can you tell us what the Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs does? What organizations do you deal with?

A: I'm glad you asked. I have a great job. It's interesting and challenging, and it's a great honor to work for Secretary Rice.

My bureau is responsible for developing the United States' policy in the United Nations and other international organizations. I help to direct the work of the many diplomats and specialists who represent the United States at international organizations such as the World Food Program, UNESCO, the United Nations Environment Program, the International Civil Aviation Organization and many others. I spend a lot of my time focused on the United States' agenda in the Security Council, including our peacekeeping operations in Africa, Iranian nuclear issues, and our efforts to support the people of Lebanon in their efforts to build a strong and peaceful democracy.

Q: [Nicolas.Richter]: When will the search for the new UN Secretary General enter a decisive stage, and have the US selected one or more candidates not officially declared yet? (Question from German Daily Süddeutsche Zeitung)

A: The term of the current Secretary General, Kofi Annan, expires at the end of this year. There are a number of declared candidates to replace him.

We are closely considering the candidates for Secretary General, but have not endorsed a candidate. We are looking for a candidate firmly committed to reform of the United Nations, who shares our view of the importance of the promotion of democracy and human rights. We are continuing to consult with other Members of the General Assembly, but hope a decision will be made in sufficient time to prepare for the transition.

Q [Regina]: Has the U.S. resolved its payment dues to the U.N?

A: Thank you, Regina, this is a good question. I believe you are referring to the Helms-Biden legislation. You may be aware that Helms-Biden made payment of our outstanding UN dues contingent upon the implementation of a series of reforms at the UN. Over the course of several years, the UN implemented all of these reforms, and the United States paid its arrears.

But your question also hints at one of our priorities for the 61st session of the General Assembly. In September 2005, world leaders endorsed a number of management reforms so that the UN can better live up to the noble ideals of the Charter. We have made some progress since then, but much more needs to be done. During the upcoming session, we plan to work with other UN members to build support for implementing the remaining management reforms from the September 2005 Summit.

Q [Hillel Neuer]: Do you expect the Democracy Caucus to work together at the upcoming Human Rights Council session?

A: We do expect close coordination among democracies at the Human Rights Council. As you may know, the United States did not seek election to the Council, but participates actively as an observer. We want the Council to be a strong and effective voice for the defense of human rights, and that will require Member States committed to human rights to be resolute and determined in holding the Council to the highest standards.

On this topic, the United States has been glad to see so many countries rally behind President Bush's proposal for a UN Democracy Fund. In 2004, President Bush proposed the Fund as a way of helping support emerging democracies through technical assistance. The Fund was established last year and has put in place an Advisory Board, to which the US is a member. The Board received over 1300 grant proposals from over 100 countries and selected 125 projects to receive the first set of grants this fall. The United States is pleased with this progress and will continue to work hard to strengthen UN democracy efforts.

KRISTEN SILVERBERG: Thank you all for joining today. I enjoyed the exchange. I hope you will all watch President Bush's speech to the General Assembly on September 19th at 11:30am!

WEBCHAT MODERATOR: We would like to thank all of our guests from around the world for their time this afternoon.

Assistant Secretary Silverberg we appreciate your time and your answers.

Source: http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/biog/53040.htm

2. U.S. Foreign Assistance Director Outlines Aid to Lebanon: Randall Tobias identifies six projects the United States will fund by David Shelby
Washington File Staff Writer, August 31, 2006.



A Jordanian worker checks a truck loaded with U.S.-donated wheat headed for Lebanon in Amman, Jordan, August 31. (©AP Images)

Washington – Director of U.S. Foreign Assistance Randall Tobias elaborated August 31 on the U.S. commitment of \$230 million in emergency reconstruction assistance to Lebanon. He identified six specific areas on which the United States initially would focus its resources in support of the Lebanese government's recovery plan.

"Today, we reiterate the United States' commitment to reinforcing democracy by supporting the Lebanese government's efforts to meet the needs of its people through early recovery and reconstruction," Tobias told delegates at a donors' conference on relief for Lebanon held in Stockholm, Sweden.

The six projects the United States will fund include:

- Reconstructing the Fidar Bridge in Jbeil, a key link in Lebanon's coastal highway between Beirut and the northern city of Tripoli;
- Removing debris from the southern road between Marjeyoun and Nabatyeh;
- Procuring materials and hiring local workers to repair damaged homes;
- Cleaning and repairing schools in preparation for the coming school year;
- Providing new nets, hooks and other trade material to fishermen whose equipment was damaged; and
- Supporting local fishermen working to clean up the oil slick that now pollutes 90 miles of the Lebanese coastline.

In addition, the United States donated 300 metric tons of lentils and 700 metric tons of wheat to the World Food Program to support its efforts to assist some 350,000 people affected by the monthlong war between Israel and Hezbollah. Those donations were shipped from stockpiles in Dubai and Jordan August 30 and August 31.



Ambassador Randall Tobias addresses the Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery in Stockholm, August 31. (©AP Images)

The United States also announced that it would help fund efforts to neutralize and remove unexploded ordnance that remains from the Israeli bombing campaign and the subsequent ground combat.

Some 60 countries and aid agencies have gathered in the Swedish capital to discuss reconstruction assistance for Lebanon. Lebanese Prime Minister Fuad Siniora told the delegates that Israel's assault wiped out 15 years of development his country has achieved since the end of its civil war. The Lebanese government has estimated its initial reconstruction needs at \$540 million, though it says the full cost of the war, including structural and long-term economic damage, is in the billions of dollars.

The government said its initial recovery priorities are to find housing for displaced families, rebuild the damaged infrastructure, improve social services, clean up the oil spill along the coast and clear unexploded ordnance.

Israel launched an assault on Lebanon July 12 in response to the kidnapping of two Israeli soldiers by Lebanese Hezbollah militants. Israel targeted Hezbollah strongholds in southern Lebanon, the Bekaa Valley and the southern suburbs of Beirut. Israel also attacked much of Lebanon's civilian infrastructure, including roads, bridges, power plants, port facilities and Beirut's Rafik Hariri International Airport.

An Israeli attack on a coastal power plant released an estimated 17.4 million liters of fuel oil into the Mediterranean Sea, creating an oil slick along 145 kilometers of the Lebanese coast.

During the conflict, Hezbollah militants fired thousands of relatively inaccurate Katyusha rockets into northern Israel, some of them falling as far south as the Israeli city of Haifa.

U.N. Security Council Resolution 1701 ended the hostilities August 14. Tensions remain high, however, as Israeli troops continue to occupy parts of southern Lebanon and as Israel maintains an air and sea blockade on the country.

Israel has said it would withdraw all its forces and lift the blockade when all the terms of Resolution 1701 are met. These terms include deployment of a 15,000-troop international peacekeeping force alongside 15,000 Lebanese troops in Hezbollah's traditional stronghold in the south and the interdiction of arms shipments to Hezbollah. The resolution also emphasizes "the need to address urgently the causes that have given rise to the current crisis, including by the unconditional release of the abducted Israeli soldiers."

Tobias said all humanitarian relief and reconstruction aid must be aimed at supporting the underlying goals of Resolution 1701: "changing the unstable status quo that precipitated the

conflict, strengthening Lebanon's sovereign, democratic government, and ensuring lasting peace and security for the entire region.”

“A democratic, secure, and prosperous Lebanon is in the best interest of the entire global community,” he said. “Indeed, it is our best defense against the recurrence of instability and war.” He urged all the conference participants to work toward this end.

The [full text](#) of Tobias’ prepared remarks and a [fact sheet](#) outlining U.S. aid to Lebanon are available on the USAID Web site.

For additional information, see [Lebanon Assistance](#).

(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>)

Source: http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2006&m=August&x=20060831123055ndyblehs5.626857e-03

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3. United States Humanitarian, Reconstruction, and Security Assistance to Lebanon. USAID Fact Sheet, August 21, 2006.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 21, 2006

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

Today, President Bush Announced That The United States Was Planning To Provide Over \$230 Million In Humanitarian, Reconstruction, And Security Assistance To Lebanon. \$27 million of this assistance has already been provided. This assistance aims to strengthen Lebanon's sovereign, democratic government, help the Lebanese people rebuild their country, and ensure lasting peace and security for the entire region.

Humanitarian Assistance

The United States Is Leading The International Effort To Bring Urgently Needed Humanitarian Relief To The People Of Lebanon. From the onset of the conflict, U.S. diplomatic, military, and disaster relief personnel have coordinated with the Lebanese government, non-governmental organizations, and allies to alleviate the suffering of the Lebanese people.

The United States Has:

- Delivered medicine, fuel, shelter, food, and water to the Lebanese people.
- Helped international relief agencies and non-governmental organizations arrange convoys to bring critical supplies to civilians in the conflict zones.
- Worked with the Israeli and Lebanese governments, as well as partners in the region, to open ports, shipping lanes and runways, to allow the delivery of urgently needed supplies.
- Helped to secure the early reopening of the Rafik Hariri International Airport in Beirut for passenger and humanitarian flights.
- Helped to ensure the resumption of fuel supplies for Lebanon's principal power plants.
- Worked with Lebanese officials and others to alleviate shortages in gasoline and diesel for vehicles.
- Dispatched a shipment of 25,000 metric tons of wheat to Lebanon to ensure an uninterrupted supply of food.

Reconstruction Assistance

The United States Commitment To Lebanon Will Continue Beyond The Stage Of Immediate Relief. Our commitment to bolstering Lebanon's fragile democracy and assisting the Lebanese people is enduring and unwavering.

The United States Will:

- Assist in efforts to rebuild key bridges and roads and to make them passable as soon as possible.
- Support the rebuilding of homes and other private infrastructure in the hardest-hit areas of Lebanon, especially the South.
- Support the rehabilitation of schools so that Lebanese children can return to the classroom.
- Assist with the cleanup of the Jiyeh oil spill and the resulting pollution, in order to restore livelihoods and protect people's health in coastal communities.
- Assist in the disposal of unexploded ordnance, and fund demining and mine awareness programs.

Security Assistance

The Cornerstone Of A Sovereign And Independent Lebanese Government Is A Strong And Effective Lebanese Army. The United States will assist the Lebanese Armed Forces and Lebanon's national police to ensure that they can extend government authority throughout Lebanon, secure Lebanon's borders and ports of entry, and ensure that no armed groups exist in Lebanon outside the authority of the state.

The United States Will:

- Provide the Lebanese security services with new equipment and spare parts to service existing equipment.
- Work with international partners to provide the Lebanese security services with up-to-date training.
- Continue programs to modernize and professionalize further Lebanese law enforcement organizations, and bolster their ability to address the growing terrorist threat in Lebanon and the region.

The Assistance Of The U.S. Government Is A Reflection Of The Generosity Of The American People. In order to tap into the generosity of America's private businesses and individuals, a high-level Presidential delegation will be dispatched to Lebanon in order to help channel private U.S. donations to needy people and organizations.

Source: http://www.usaid.gov/press/factsheets/2006/fs060821.html

4. Iran Should Be Sanctioned, U.S. Envoy Bolton Says: International atomic agency reports Iran defied U.N. Security Council demands, by Judy Aita Washington File United Nations Correspondent, August 31, 2006.

Ambassador John Bolton addresses reporters questions at the U.N. Thursday August 31. (© AP Images)United Nations -- By not suspending its uranium enrichment activities, Iran is defying the international community and should be sanctioned, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations John Bolton said August 31.

Bolton said that an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) report to the Security Council "is ample evidence" of Iran's defiance of the demands made by both groups on its nuclear enrichment program.

On July 31, the Security Council adopted Resolution 1696 demanding that Iran suspend all enrichment-related and reprocessing activities, including research and development. If Iran refused, the council warned it would consider economic sanctions. (See related article.)

In a five-page report to the council on August 31, IAEA said that Iran had not suspended its enrichment related activities nor addressed long-standing verification issues with the agency.

"The report is short and to the point and concludes that after all these years of trying, the IAEA is still unable to confirm the peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear program," Bolton said. "In the language of the IAEA that is a red flag. That says that the Iranian program contains much that we should be worried about ... and underlines our concern that Iran is pursuing nuclear weapons."

Iran has not suspended its enrichment activities, but is accelerating them, the ambassador stressed. Iran "is building another 164-centrifuge cascade which will begin operations within the next month and all the research activities, including the introduction of uranium hexafluoride into the centrifuge cascade, continues as recently as this past week."

"The bottom line," the ambassador said, is that Iran is defying the international community by not suspending its uranium enrichment activities and continues to pursue a nuclear weapons capability in violation of its obligations under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

The Security Council will not take any action until after European Union foreign policy chief Javier Solana meets with Iran's nuclear negotiator, Ali Larijani, in early September, Bolton said. Afterward, consultations will take place in New York and elsewhere.

"We're certainly ready to proceed here in New York when we are given the instructions to do so," he said.

Bolton refused to discuss what type of sanctions the United States might seek.

Questioned about whether China and Russia, two of the council's five permanent members with veto power, would agree to impose economic sanctions on Iran, Bolton warned journalists "not to jump to the conclusion that they won't follow through on the word that they have given." He referred to commitments previously made by Russia and China's foreign ministers.

In June, the five permanent Security Council members -- China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States -- along with Germany (the P5+1) offered Iran a package of

incentives and penalties to persuade it to abandon its controversial uranium enrichment program. The P5+1 issued a statement at that time that if Iran continued to reject the generous offer that France, Germany and the United Kingdom (EU3) were making on behalf of the six countries and failed to suspend its uranium enrichment activities, then the group would return to the Security Council and seek economic sanctions.

PATTERN OF OBSTRUCTIONISM

The IAEA report shows a continuing pattern of obstructionism, lack of cooperation and failure to allow IAEA inspectors to do the basic work needed to prove the Iranian program is peaceful, Bolton said.

"The activities Iran undertakes is simply inexplicable if their real purpose is a peaceful nuclear power program," he said.

Iran is trying to perfect the technology that will allow it to take the uranium U-235 isotope from its natural level of occurrence, which is about 0.1 percent in all uranium, and enrich it to levels reaching weapons grade, which contains 90 percent or more of the U-235 isotope, he said.

"The method they are using is a complex technology with a lot of ways it can break down before you achieve a capability to produce at mass production level," Bolton said.

The ambassador also said that Iran is experimenting with casting and forming uranium metal, which is used only by the most advanced nuclear programs in the world.

"The only real use for uranium metal is a nuclear weapon," he said. "Why is Iran experimenting with small quantities of uranium metal? Why are they reluctant to allow the IAEA to make copies of documents?"

STATE'S BURNS TRAVELING TO EUROPE TO DISCUSS SANCTIONS

At the State Department August 31, spokesman Sean McCormack said Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs R. Nicholas Burns is traveling to Berlin for talks with European allies on the sanctions against Iran that would be contained in the Security Council resolution.

"[W]e're going to be pushing hard immediately for the Security Council to act," McCormack said.

The State Department spokesman said he expected that in the meantime, Germany, France and the United Kingdom will have "continuing diplomatic contact with the Iranian government," and that the Iranian government can still meet the Security Council's conditions to avoid sanctions.

"I would expect that diplomatic process would take some time. Now ... if during this period of time the Iranian government says we will and have met the conditions laid out for us, meaning suspension of all enrichment-related and reprocessing-related activities, and that is verified, then ... suspension of those activities means suspension in the Security Council in terms of the P5+1 plus one and the Security Council acting and seeking sanctions," he said.

Iran is being asked to meet those conditions in order to realize negotiations in which the incentives package offered by the international community can be discussed, he said.

However, McCormack added that Iran “has given zero indication to this point that that's what they intend to do.”

(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>)

Source: http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2006&m=August&x=20060831175737jatia0.2994043

5. United States Urges Sudan to Accept New U.N. Peacekeepers Security Council authorizes 20,000-person peace mission for Darfur by Judy Aita, Washington File United Nations Correspondent, August 31, 2006.

Ambassador John Bolton addresses reporters questions at the U.N. Thursday, August 31, 2006. (© AP Images)United Nations -- The United States has called on Sudan to accept the newly passed Security Council resolution that authorizes the United Nations to take over peacekeeping operations in Darfur.

The Security Council adopted a resolution August 31 asking the U.N. secretary-general to arrange for the rapid deployment of more than 20,000 military and civilian personnel and 16 police units of the U.N. Mission in Sudan (UNMIS). The vote was 12-0 with China, Russia and Qatar abstaining.

The resolution, co-sponsored by the United States and the United Kingdom, "invites the consent" of the government in Khartoum. It also provides support for the African Union-led forces (AMIS) now in the country, including air, ground and engineering assets.

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations John Bolton said it is imperative for the council to move immediately to implement the resolution fully "to stop the tragic events unfolding in Darfur. Every day we delay only adds to the suffering of the Sudanese people and extends the genocide."

Calling on Sudan to cooperate with the United Nations, Bolton pointed out that the resolution "invites the government of Sudan to consent to deployment, though nothing in this language requires their consent. We expect their full and unconditional cooperation and support with the new U.N. peacekeeping force.

"Failure on the government of Sudan's part to do so will significantly undermine the Darfur Peace Agreement and prolong the humanitarian crisis in Darfur," he said.

The ambassador said what is needed from Sudan's government is "acquiescence."

"Silence gives consent," he told journalists after the meeting. "If there isn't any obstructionism, then the U.N. operation could proceed. We're not looking for billboards on the highway into Khartoum welcoming the U.N."

Following passage of the resolution, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Jendayi Frazer and Kristen Silverberg, the assistant secretary of state for international organization affairs, spoke to reporters at the State Department in Washington.

Frazer, who had just returned from Sudan where she met with Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, called the resolution's passage "the key step to ultimately ending the crisis in Darfur." (See related article.)

The United States, she reiterated, continues to support strengthening the African Union force in Darfur and making the African Union force the core of a U.N. mission in Darfur.

Silverberg added: "We're very pleased by the step the council took today in passing this resolution. We think it lays the groundwork for an effective multilateral intervention in Sudan to help bring an end to the violence."

With that, she said, "we'll now begin the hard work of working with DPKO [the U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations] and with all of our U.N. partners to begin to build this force of up to 17,000 military personnel, and up to 3,000 civilian police, with a substantial African element at the core of the mission."

Significant logistical work already has taken place at the U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations, she said, and with the passage of the resolution, "we can begin finalizing those details and begin deployment as soon as possible."

The African Union said that it cannot continue to field its 7,000-troop mission and agreed that the United Nations should take over operations. But Sudan strongly has opposed a U.N.-led force.

Nevertheless, the sponsors of the resolution said they do not expect UNMIS to fight its way into the region. The resolution allows the United Nations to finalize the extensive planning and logistical work needed to field such a major peacekeeping operation and provide for a smooth transition from AMIS to the United Nations. It is also a strong signal of the Security Council's determination to live up to its responsibilities to the people of Darfur, they said.

The resolution authorizes the U.N. peacekeepers to "use all necessary means" to protect U.N. facilities and personnel, ensure the freedom of movement of U.N. personnel and humanitarian workers and prevent attacks and threats against civilians. U.N. troops will be stationed in buffer zones and demilitarized zones and inside camps for internally displaced persons.

UNMIS also will monitor movements of government troops and rebel groups, seize or collect weapons that violate cease-fire and peace agreements, and help with the implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement.

The council has set September 8 for a high-level meeting to discuss the situation with Sudanese officials and representatives from other organizations such as the African Union, the Arab League and the Islamic Conference.

For further information, see Darfur Humanitarian Emergency.

(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>)

Source: http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2006&m=August&x=20060831155129atiayduj0.6694605

6. Selected Web Sites.

U.S. Government:

- U.S. Mission to the UN: <http://www.usunnewyork.usmission.gov/index.htm>
 - U.S. Statements, letters and fact sheets on the UN reform:
<http://www.usunnewyork.usmission.gov/reform-un.htm>
- UN Reform (State Department):
 - UN Reform, Bureau of International Organization Affairs:
<http://www.state.gov/p/io/c15031.htm>
 - U.S. and the UN reform, IIP:
http://usinfo.state.gov/is/international_security/UNGA_2005.html



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